

CLAIMS

We claim:

- Sub A² 7
1. An article of manufacture for use in a data processing system for updating an application program for execution on the data processing system, said article of manufacture comprising a computer-readable storage medium having a computer program embodied in said medium which causes the data processing system to execute the method steps comprising:
- defining a configuration of the application program corresponding to a particular user of the application program;
 - determining that the stored configuration corresponds to the requesting user;
 - determining if any items described in the configuration have been updated;
 - retrieving an updated item if the item has been updated; and
 - building the application program with the updated item.

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1 2. The article of manufacture of claim 1 wherein the computer program embodied in said
2 medium causes the data processing system to execute the additional method steps comprising:

3 encrypting and storing the configuration in a manifest file;

4 authenticating the user in response to the user requesting the application
5 program;

6 decrypting the manifest file to produce a decrypted configuration in response to
7 the user authentication;

8 determining if any items described in the decrypted configuration have been
9 updated;

10 retrieving an updated item if the item has been updated; and

11 building the application program with the updated item.

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1 3. The article of manufacture of claim 1 wherein the computer program embodied in said
2 medium causes the data processing system to execute the additional method steps comprising:

3 encrypting and storing the configuration in a manifest file stored on the remote
4 data processing system;

5 downloading the manifest file from the remote data processing system to the
6 local data processing system;

7 decrypting the downloaded manifest file to produce a downloaded configuration
in response to the user authentication;

8 determining if any items described in the downloaded configuration have been
9 updated; and

10 retrieving an updated item from the remote data processing system to the local
11 data processing system according to the downloaded configuration if the item has been
12 updated.

1 4. The article of manufacture of claim 3 wherein the computer program embodied in said
2 medium causes the data processing system to execute the additional method step comprising:

3 downloading data from the remote data processing system to the local data
4 processing system according to the decrypted configuration.

6. A method for use in a data processing system for updating an application program for execution on the data processing system, said method comprising the steps of:

defining a configuration of the application program corresponding to a particular user of the application program;

determining that the stored configuration corresponds to the requesting user;

determining if any items described in the configuration have been updated;

retrieving an updated item if the item has been updated; and

building the application\program with the updated item.

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The method of claim 6 further comprising the steps of:

encrypting and storing the configuration in a manifest file;

authenticating the user in response to the user requesting the application

program;

decrypting the manifest file to produce a decrypted configuration in response to

the user authentication;

determining if any items described in the decrypted configuration have been updated;

retrieving an updated item if the item has been updated; and

building the application program with the updated item.

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- 1 8. The method of claim 6 further comprising the steps of:
- 2
- 3 encrypting and storing the configuration in a manifest file stored on the remote
- 4 data processing system;
- 5 downloading the manifest file from the remote data processing system to the
- 6 local data processing system;
- 7 decrypting the downloaded manifest file to produce a downloaded configuration
- 8 in response to the user authentication;
- 9 determining if any items described in the downloaded configuration have been
- 10 updated; and
- 11 retrieving an updated item from the remote data processing system to the local
- 12 data processing system according to the downloaded configuration if the item has been
- 13 updated.

- 1 9. The method of claim 8 further comprising the step of:
- 2 downloading data from the remote data processing system to the local data
- 3 processing system according to the decrypted configuration.

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- 1 12. The computer system of claim 11 further comprising:
- 2 an encryptor for encrypting and storing the configuration in a manifest file;
- 3 an authentication of the user in response to the user requesting the application
- 4 program;
- 5 a decryptor for decrypting the manifest file to produce a decrypted configuration
- 6 in response to the user authentication;
- 7 a determination if any items described in the decrypted configuration have been
- 8 updated;
- 9 a retrieval of an updated item if the item has been updated; and
- 10 an application builder for building the application program with the updated
- 11 item.

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1 13. The computer system of claim 11 further comprising:

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3 a manifest file stored on the remote data processing system comprising an
4 encrypted and stored configuration;

5 a downloaded manifest file comprising the manifest file downloaded from the
6 remote data processing system to the local data processing system;

7 a downloaded configuration produced from decrypting the downloaded manifest
8 file in response to the user authentication;

9 a determination if any items described in the downloaded configuration have
10 been updated; and

11 an updated item retrieved from the remote data processing system to the local
12 data processing system according to the downloaded configuration if the item has been
13 updated.

1 14. The computer system of claim 13 further comprising:

2 downloaded data downloaded from the remote data processing system to the
3 local data processing system according to the decrypted configuration.

